

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Klemens Degen  
Patent No.: 7,441,313  
Conf. No.: 4255  
Issued: October 28, 2008  
Title: SPRING CLAMP WITH HOOK  
Art Unit: 3677  
Examiner: Ruth C. Rodriguez  
Docket No.: 0113378-068

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

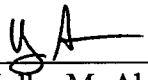
**SMALL ENTITY ASSERTION**

Sir:

The owner of the above U.S. patent qualifies for small entity status. Thus, the owner requests small entity status and is entitled to pay small entity fees.

To the extent that there are any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact the owner's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,  
K & L GATES LLP

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
Holby M. Abern  
Reg. No. 47,372  
Customer No. 24573

Dated: July 31, 2009